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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the Federal Express with sufficient postage as an envelopaddressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on: Date: March 21, 2001 Docket No. GC477C1 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In re Application of Group Art Unit: 1652 Wang et al. Serial No.: 09/273,957 Examiner: Walicka, M.A. Filed: March 22, 1999 Novel Phenol Oxidizing Enzyme For: **Enzymes** Information Disclosure Statement Assistant Director for Patents Washington, DC 20231 Sir: Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information (listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and attached thereto) of which they are aware, that they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56. This Information Disclosure Statement: (a) accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith. 37 CFR §1.97(a). (b) is filed within three months after the filing date of the application or within three months after the date of entry into the national stage of a PCT application as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491. (c) as far as is known to the undersigned, is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. (d) is filed after the first Office Action and more than three months after the application filing date or PCT national stage date of entry filing but, as far as is known to the undersigned, prior to the mailing date of either a final

rejection or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either the fee (\$240) set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) or a certification as specified

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	in 37 CFR §1.97(e), as checked below. Authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 07-1048 in the amount of \$240.00 to cover the cost of this Information Disclosure Statement is provided in the Transmittal Letter submitt herewith in duplicate.	
	allowa Transr No. 07 specifi consid	is filed after the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of nce, whichever occurred first, and is accompanied by authorization (in the nittal Letter submitted herewith in duplicate) to charge Deposit Account -1048 the fee (\$240) set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(I)(1) and a certification as ed in 37 CFR §1.97(e), as checked below. This document is to be dered as a petition requesting consideration of the Supplemental nation Disclosure Statement.
[If either of b	oxes (d) or (e) is checked above, the following "certification" under 37 CFR
§1.97(e) may	need to	be completed.] The undersigned certifies that:
	counte	Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure nent was cited in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a great foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of formation Disclosure Statement.
	foreigr reasor	No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement ted in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making hable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure nent.
A copy of the	items o	n Form PTO-1449 is supplied: PCT International Search Report for
PCT/US 99/06	32, file	d March 23, 1999, with attached patents and publications.
⊠ eac	ch □n	one only those listed below:
A concise exp	lanatior	of relevance of the items listed on PTO-1449 is:
·	\boxtimes	not given
		given for each listed item
		given for only non-English language listed item(s)
		in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the nt portions of the references.

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The Examiner is reminded that a "concise explanation of the relevance" of the submitted prior art "may be nothing more than identification of the particular figure or paragraph of the patent or publication which has some relation to the claimed invention." MPEP §609.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Date: March 21, 2001

Richard T. Ito

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Respectfully submitted

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